



Industrial Chemicals Division
12260 South Carondelet Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60633
(312) 933-8800

March 5, 1980

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
NPDES Unit - DWPG
2200 Churchill Road
Springfield IL 62706

Subject: NPDES Permit #IL0002640

Gentlemen:

On March 1, 1980 at 1500, a leak was discovered in the feed line to #7 product coolers inside the basin. Operational personnel immediately took steps to bypass acid flow from the affected area. Simultaneously, the personnel on the scene sampled the outfall of the affected basin instead of Outfall 002. This was done because they were unable to reach the Outfall sample point due to inclement weather conditions.

The Permit limitations for pH at Outfall 002 is 5.0 to 10.0. The pH of the #7 cooler basin outlet was at its lowest pH of 1.5 at 1500. The leak was stopped by 1600 and the cooler basin outlet pH returned to 7.0 by 1630.

Total flow through Outfall 002 is approximated at 9.0 MGD at this time of year with approximately less than 1/5 of this flow coming from #7 cooler basin. Due to reduced flow across the basin, the small amount of acid leaked into it, and the unknown alkalinity of the intake river water, we are unable to determine if an actual pH excursion occurred at Outfall 002. Total flow at this time should be resulted in an approximate dilution of the acid of 4000 to 1.

Currently, tube and shell heat exchangers are on order for replacement of the product coolers in #7 unit. Delivery and installation is anticipated sometime in the mid-second quarter of this year. This installation will greatly reduce the possibility of acid leaks in the future.

I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted herein; and based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe the submitted information is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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J.F.
F.F.W.
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ILL. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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WATER POLLUTION CONTROL
REC. 2

IEPA

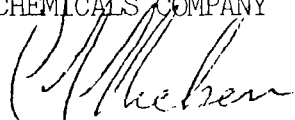
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If you have any questions, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

CHEMICALS COMPANY

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. T. Nielsen".

C. T. Nielsen
Plant Manager

JLH:er